FINE

Evening Telegraph

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MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1871.

THE EVENING TELEGRAPH, from its original establishment, has been in the receipt of telegraphic news from the New York Associated Press, which consists of the Tribune, Times, Herald, World, Sun, Journal of Commerce, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, and Evening Express. The success which has attended our enterprise is, in itself, a sufficient evidence of the freshness, fullness, and reliability of the news which we have received from this source. Last March we entered Into a special contract by which THE EVENING TELEGRAPH has the exclusive use of the news furnished in the afternoon by the Associated Press to its own members, the North American, Inquirer, Ledger, Press, Age, Record, and German Democrat, of this city, and the leading journals of the East, North, West and South; and hereafter THE TELEGRAPH will be the only evening paper published in this city in which the afternoon despatches of the Associated Press will appear.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 15 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 21, 31, and 41. Whenever there is important news of the progress of the European war, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

THE FALL OF PARIS.

Paris has fallen, and, leaving all sentimentalism out of the question, just men of all nations will declare that her fate is deserved. For years this city has been a hot-bed of the most seductive vice and immorality, and the hope for ver, has shamed the civilization of the age until all men and women who have any respect for decency, not to speak of religion, feel that nothing but some terrible disaster, such as has overtaken her, could make her people feel what their real degradation was, That Paris should make a determined resistance was no more than was to be expecteds for the valor of her citizens none doubted; but it cannot be said that the siege has been a remarkable exhibition of heroism on the part of the people of the city, for many towns have suffered more and have held out longer. It is a matter for congratulation, however, that the capitulation has taken place before the work of destruction has been carried to extreme lengths, and Paris now, although sadly defaced, still retains intact her most beantiful public edifices, historical monuments, and noble collections of art. These are things the world cannot afford to lose, and we are profoundly thankful that the German guns have been allowed to spare them. The fall of Paris, even more than any previous calamity of the war, will be an affliction that the French people will find it hard to bear; and it certainly ought to convince them of the ntter uselessness of further continuing a struggle in which they can gain nothing but defeat and humiliation. The terms granted by the Germans are, under all the circumnot ungenerous; and the Assembly which National the terms of capitulation provide for if it is composed of really patriotic men, effect a peace even if it has to surrender the territory that the Germans demand, and pay them an indemnity for the sacrifices they have made in a war forced upon them by French ambition. The fall of Paris was a necessary prelude to negotiations for peace, and now that the great city is prostrate at the feet of the Germans, the last scenes of the most remarkable conflict of modern times should be near at hand.

THE ACQUITTAL OF DR. NEVILLE. THE trial of Dr. W. H. H. Neville, on the charge of infanticide, which resulted on Saturday last in the complete vindication of the accused, was certainly one of the most remarkable that has ever occurred. The testimony brought forward by the prosecution was so direct and conclusive that it would undoubtedly have secured the condemnation of the un'ucky physician, if he had not been able to prove an alibi so clearly that the District Attorney and the Judges were obliged to unite in demanding a verdict of not guilty. Dr. Neville, by a most fortunate circumstance, was able to show his whereabouts for several hours before and after the time at which the witnesses for the Commonwealth said the crime was committed, and to prove. beyond the shadow of a doubt, that it was impossible that he should have been the guilty party. He is therefore entitled to the sineere congratulations of his fellow-citizens upon the emphatic vindication of his character, and to their sympathy for the sufferings he has endured by a long and undeserved imprisonment, and all the other inju- but they have not yet terminated." Yet, on

ries that have resulted from the false accusa- | the very next day, the Duc de Gramont fortion put upon him. It was certainly a grievous wrong that Dr. Neville should not have been allowed to establish his innocence weeks ago, and it is not to be wondered at that he should be disposed to blame the District Attorney; but no impartial person who understands the facts of the case, and the imperfect workings of our system of criminal jurisprudence, will be able to accuse Mr. Sheppard of having failed in his duty in the matter. The wrong done to Dr. Neville resulted from the imperfections of the law, and not from any neglect on the part of the District Attorney, who, we believe, endeavored to bring the case to trial at as early a day as possible. It is of course but a poor consolation to Dr. Neville to know that he has been the victim of imperfect laws, but any citizen is liable to suffer as he has done, and no legal code that could be devised by human wisdom would be able to prevent innocent men from being accused of crime or of enduring the consequences of such accu-

In alluding to this case we cannot avoid mentioning one very remarkable circumstance connected with it, and that is the brntal behavior of the principal witnesses for the Commonwealth. These women were willing to swear positively that Dr. Neville was the man who threw a box containing a living child into Cohocksink creek, and yet they acknowledged that when the child was rescued alive from the water they took no measures whatever to preserve it, but allowed it to remain exposed in the vard of their dwelling for several hours while they went on with their work, as if it were a thing of no consequence. The conduct of all connected with the finding of the child was most extraordinary, and while Dr. Neville was acquitted, the principal witnesses against him are convicted before the community by their own testimony of gross brutality, to say the least that can be said in regard to

It is sincerely to be hoped that efforts will still be made to discover who the guilty person or persons were in this affair, and to bring them to justice. This much at least the officers of the law owe to an outraged community and to an innocent man, who has suffered in pocket and reputation for a crime that he certainly did not commit.

PAVING BROAD STREET. WE do not object to the construction of a wooden pavement on Broad street at the expense of the city, but if this point is to be conceded, tax-payers have an undoubted right to expect and demand that this work will be completed at the smallest possible cost. We are therefore pained to hear rumors that there is great danger that Philadelphians are about to be mulcted, not merely in money enough to construct the proposed pavement, but in a sum sufficiently large to enrich a ring of contractors. It is alleged rank corruption that the imperial system has | that the proprietors of several antagonistic fostered, and by which it happily fell, we pavement patents, who have been loudly declaring during the last few years that whenever the opportunity offered they would take the contract for paving Broad street at bare cost, have recently effected a combination whereby they propose to divide the work of laying the pavement, and to demand for each section of it about twice as much money as it is intrinsically worth. It is also said to be part of this scheme to hasten an appropriation by Councils by the threat that the Legislature will create a street-paving commission, and direct or compel Councils to make the desired appropriation. We scarcely suppose that the legislative movement will be vigorously or sincere'y pursued, but it was quoted at a meeting of the Finance Committee of Councils on Saturday night last, with evident effect, as a good reason why a loan of \$400,000 should be created to pave Broad street. The point to which we wish to direct especial attention that if this proposed apis not hedged round propriation with wise restrictions, a large portion of it will probably be stolen. The alleged programme is that one wood pavement company is to take the upper part of the city, while another company takes the lower part of the city, and each charges a price per foot twice as large as should in justice be paid: and we sincerely hope that Councils, in their wisdom, patriotism, and disinterestedness, will break up this arrangement. Why cannot they appoint a committee, consisting of citizens of irreproachable character, to thoroughly investigate the whole subject of wood pavements, and to insert proper restrictions in the pro-

posed contracts?

A REVIEW OF THE WAR. In view of the absorbing interest which hangs about the fall of Paris, we present elsewhere to-dsy a complete and carefullyprepared review of the great struggle between France and Germany, from the date of the capitulation at Sedan to that of the fall of Paris. The history of the earlier period of the war was narrated at considerable length immediately after the overthrow of the Empire, and it is only necessary to repeat in this connection a bare summary of the lead-

The candidature of Prince Leopold for the vacant throne of Spain was first broached to his colleagues by Marshal Prim on the 4th of July, and on the 5th it first became known to the world outside of diplomatic circles. On the 6th, the Duc de Gramont, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced to the Chambers that under no pretext would France permit a German power to place one of its princes on the throne of Charles V. Then ensued the conferences between M. Benedetti, the French Ambassador to Prussia, with King William, at Ems. On the 12th the withdrawal of Prince Leopold from the candidature was announced, and on the 14th the Duc de Gramont acknowledged the official notification of the withdrawal. On that occasion he said:-"The negotiations which we have been pursning with Prussia have had no other object,

mally announced to the Senate and Corps Legislatif the declaration of war by France

On July 27 a decree was published appointing the Empress Eugenie Regent of France, and on the 28th the Emperor left St. Cloud, accompanied by the Prince Imperial, erriving on the afternoon of the same day at Metz, to place himself at the head of his principal army. On the 2d of August, the hostile forces came face to face for the first time at Saarbruck, on Prussian soil, where a large French force indulged in cannonading a mere handful of Germans for two hours, the Prince Imperial exhibiting so much calmness during the uproar that "the soldiers wept at his tranquillity." The French having struck the first blow and been the first to cross the line, the army of the Crown Prince of Prussia was at once put in motion, and on the 4th of August it encountered and defeated a portion of Marshal Mac-Mahon's army at Weissenburg. On the 6th MacMahon was again engaged at Woerth, and, after a terrible and destructive struggle, completely routed by the Crown Prince and driven towards Paris. On the same day the Prussian right, under General von Steinmetz. advanced across the border, routing General Frossard at Forbach, and driving him back upon Metz. The result of these two disastrous defeats was the overthrow of the socalled liberal ministry of Ollivier, which was driven from power on the 9th of August, and the formation of a reactionary minunder the leadership the Count de Palikao. Then followed a series of terrific engagements around Metz, between the French under Marshal Bazaine and the Germans under Prince Frederick Charles, commencing on the 14th and culminating at Gravelotte on the 18th. As the result, Bazaine was defeated in his attempt at withdrawing his army from the line of the Moselle and the neighborhood of Metz, and driven back under the guns of that fortress, to be there held as in a vice until famine became the ally of the Germans and forced to capitulate. MacMahon, retreating first to the northwest and then to the west, was followed by the victorious Crown Prince at his leisure. At Chalons, MacMahon turned to the north, suffering the advance of the Crown Prince's army to make a threatening demonstration towards Paris, while he mustered his forces near Rheims, with a view of endeavoring to relieve Bazaine. As soon as his purpose was well defined, the army of the Crown Prince was diverted from the advance upon Paris, and, reinforced by a portion of the army which had invested Metz, was hurled upon MacMahon at Sedan. The French commander started on his eastward move-

render of the Emperor in person. Thus far, the war had been a hand-to-hand struggle in the open field, in which superiority in numbers and discipline had given the Germans invariably the advanage. With the overthrow of the Empire and the promulgation of the Republic the contest was changed into a struggle for the possession of the cities and fortresses between the capital and the frontier, the interest centering at Paris after the downfall of Strasburg and Metz. The movements of the Army of the Loire in the neighborhood of Orleans, of the Army of North around Amiens, were all directed with the view of molesting the Germans in the siege of the capital; while those of the Army of the East had for their object the protection of Lyons and the raising of the siege of Belfort. This change in the nature of the struggle has involved less radidity of action, but has been equally fruitful of results, and now another culminating point has been reached, by the addition of Paris to the long list of captured cities, towns, and fortresses which includes Laon, Toul, Strasburg, Orleans, Soissons, Schlestadt, Metz, Dijon, Verdun, Neuf Breisach, Thionville, Amiens, Rouen, Vendome, Tours, Le Mans, Pfalsburg, Montmedy, Nuits, Mezieres, St. Quentin, and Longwy.

ment on the 25th of August. On the 30th, a

preliminary battle was fought at Beaumont,

and on the two succeeding days the grand

conflict around Sedan was waged, to termi-

nate on the 2d of September in the capitula-

tion of the entire French force and the sur-

On Saturday evening a complimentary banquet was given by the journalists in Washington to Colonel John W. Ferney on the occasion of his leaving that city for the purpose of assuming the personal charge of the Press of this city. The banquet appears to have been a very enjoyable affair, and as an expression of good feeling towards Colonel Forney by his brother journalists in Washington, it was undoubtedly well deserved. Colonel Forney has in many ways been of essential service to the correspondents and other newspaper men stationed in Washington, and his many courtesies, as this banquet testified, are gratefully appreciated by them. Colonel Forney's personal supervision will undoubtedly be of material advantage to the Press, and we cordially extend him a welcome on his return to join permanently the journ listic corps of this city.

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